

BAS Broadcasting, Inc

**905 West State St
Fremont, Oh 43420
419-332-8218**

10-25-04

RE: docket number 04-233

Dear FCC,

This letter is in response to the Commissions Notice of Inquiry to solicit comments on “concerns from the public that broadcast stations may be failing to meet the needs of their local communities”.

First a comment: I’m a 36 year broadcast veteran who now owns radio stations in small markets in Ohio. I’ve worked for three of the largest Wall Street Broadcasting companies. I can understand why the public feels localism has been abandoned. Since ownership rules changed and corporations were allowed to stretch regulations, many small town stations have moved far from their original licensed community, closer or into larger metro markets. With those moves came the abandoning of local broadcasting in those communities. The only mention of the town it once served is at the top of each hour. Gone is local coverage of news, high school sports, community events and public service programs for that community since the programming focus is now on the larger metro...where the money is! When ownership rules changed and Wall Street took the drivers seat in determining what direction radio was headed...All broadcasters and all communities affected by the changes... LOST! Maybe...now that Wall Street has beaten radio to a pulp...we can rebuild this great industry and finally take it to the next level...where it deserves to be!

Localism @ WFRO-FM and WOHF-FM

Since we purchased WFRO-FM in July 2002 and WOHF-FM in October 2003 we've made the following commitments to the communities we're licensed too and serve.

Local news each weekday morning including the regions only half hour news and information blocks at noon and 5pm which feature, ABC News, Local News, Local Sports, Stocks of local interest, Ag Stocks, Local Ag report from OSES and Town Crier a community events program.

Public Affairs: Twice monthly...more if needed both WFRO and WOHF hold "Town Hall" meetings with local experts in their field. We tackle community issues with experts and often open lines up to take calls from listeners.

Public Service: WFRO and WOHF offer two programs daily that air public service announcements. "What's Happening" airs 5 times daily...one minute each on each station and "Town Crier" is a three minute program that airs twice a day.

Emergency Assistance: WFRO and WOHF offer local school closings 4 times an hour when needed. We report local weather watches and warnings from the weather service and supply local listeners with Lake Erie water conditions.

Community Events: WFRO and WOHF promotes and sponsors Toys for Tots, Coats for Kids, Easter Seals Coupon booklets, Juvenile Diabetes Walk for a Cure, March of Dimes Walk, YMCA Membership drive, Holiday Delights presented by the Chamber of Commerce, 4th of July fireworks...we put the fireworks to music.. presented by the Communities of Fremont, Port Clinton and Oak Harbor and the county fairs in Erie, Sandusky, Ottawa, Seneca, Wood and Huron counties,

We run an ad asking listeners to tell us what they like about the stations and what they don't like...what they'd like to see more of and what they might want us to consider dropping. The communities we serve love local high school football and basketball so WFRO and WOHF carry nearly 120 live games each year including football and boys and girls basketball regular season and play-offs. We also carry Ohio State and Bowling Green football and basketball as well as the NFL. All these live broadcasts really address the large shift work force we have in the area.

The community came to us and ask us to cover local dirt track racing so we broadcast the full 24 race schedule at Fremont Speedway and select races at Attica Raceway Park and Sandusky Speedway. 2005 we'll add a full schedule of drag racing.

The community wanted a sports show that talked about hunting and fishing and since farming is so big here...gardening seemed to a natural so we added The Ohio Sportsman Show and The Gardenman to our Saturday morning program line-up.